

**P A T E N T**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

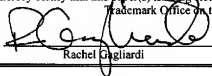
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|-------------|------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| Applicant:  | THOMAS W. DAVISON            | Confirmation No.: | 6193      |
| Serial No.: | 10/686,154                   | Examiner:         | VY Q. BUI |
| Filed:      | OCTOBER 15, 2003             | Group Art Unit:   | 3773      |
| Docket No.: | 1291.1134102                 | Customer No.:     | 33469     |
| Title:      | METHOD OF SECURING VERTEBRAE |                   |           |

**AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATE FOR ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this paper(s) is being electronically transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rachel Gagliardi

June 22, 2009  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Dear Sirs:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Official Action of the Examiner mailed February 20, 2009, setting a three-month shortened statutory period for response ending March 20, 2009. Applicants hereby request a one-month extension of time, extending the period for response to June 20, 2009, which is a Saturday, thus making the period for response end on June 22, 2009. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0413.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.